

In the Claims

21. (Previously presented) A cage or an item of cage furniture for use by a caged rodent, the cage or item of cage furniture comprising a material which is transparent or translucent to a human observer, but is perceived as being substantially darkened or opaque by the caged rodent.
22. (Previously presented) A cage or an item of cage furniture according to claim 21, for use by a caged rat or mouse.
23. (Previously presented) A cage or an item of cage furniture according to claim 21, wherein the cage or item of cage furniture is substantially or entirely formed from a substance which is transparent or translucent to a human observer but substantially darkened or opaque to the caged animal.
24. (Currently amended) A cage or an item of cage furniture according to claim 21, wherein the cage or item of cage furniture is formed entirely from a synthetic plastics material, preferably by moulding, and preferably as a single component.
25. (Previously presented) A cage or an item of cage furniture according to claim 21, wherein the material comprising the cage or cage furniture is resistant to repeated autoclaving.
26. (Previously presented) A cage or an item of cage furniture according to claim 21, comprising polysulfone, polytherimide, and/or polycarbonate.
27. (Previously presented) A cage or an item of cage furniture according to claim 21, wherein the cage or item of cage furniture comprises coloured material.

28. (Previously presented) A cage or an item of cage furniture according to claim 27, wherein the cage or item of cage furniture comprises red-coloured or red-tinted material.
29. (Previously presented) A cage or an item of cage furniture according to claim 27, wherein the cage or item of cage furniture comprises a material which transmits less than 20% of visible light with a wavelength of less than 540nm.
30. (Previously presented) A cage or item of cage furniture according to claim 27, comprising a material which transmits less than 20% of visible light with a wavelength of less than 560nm.
31. (Previously presented) A cage or item of cage furniture according to claim 27, comprising a material which transmits less than 20% of visible light with a wavelength of less than 580nm.
32. (Previously presented) A cage or item of cage furniture according to claim 27, which comprises a material which transmits at least 60% of visible light with a wavelength of 600nm or more.
33. (Previously presented) A cage or item of cage furniture according to claim 27, which comprises a material which transmits, on average, at least 20% of light with a wavelength in the range 580-590nm.
34. (Previously presented) An item of cage furniture in accordance with claim 21, comprising a substantially right-angled triangular shaped floorless shelter.
35. (Previously presented) An item of cage furniture in accordance with claim 21, provided with fixing means to restrict the movement of the item of cage furniture within a cage.

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36. (Previously presented) An item of cage furniture in accordance with claim 21, comprising at least two entrances.
37. (Previously presented) A method of making a cage or an item of cage furniture, the method comprising the step of forming said cage or item of cage furniture, so as to comprise a material which is transparent or translucent to a human observer, but is perceived as being substantially darkened or opaque by a caged rodent.
38. (Previously presented) A method also of making a cage or an item of cage furniture, the method comprising the step of forming said cage or item of cage furniture, so as to comprise a material which is transparent or translucent to a human observer, but is perceived as being substantially darkened or opaque by a caged rodent, performance of which results in production of a cage or an item of cage furniture in accordance with claim 21.
39. (Previously presented) A cage or an item of cage furniture made by the method of claim 37.
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